

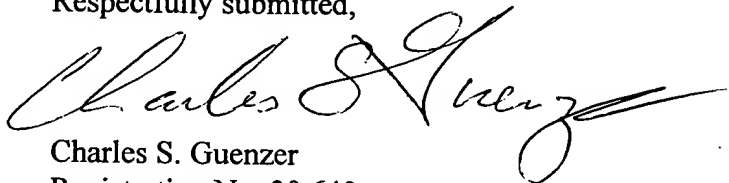
seals the structure surface pores.

REMARKS

Claims 1-4 remain in the application. These claims are based on the Annex to the English-language International Preliminary Examination Report. The amendments remove a multiple dependency and correct some non-standard English usage.

In view of the above amendments and remarks, reconsideration and allowance of all claims are respectfully requested. If the Examiner believes that a telephone interview would be helpful, he is invited to contact the undersigned attorney at the listed telephone number, which is on California time.

Respectfully submitted,



Charles S. Guenzer
Registration No. 30,640
(650) 566-8040

Date: January 25, 2000

Correspondence Address
Law Offices of Charles Guenzer
P.O. Box 60729
Palo Alto, CA 94306